

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00
DOE-11 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 SOE-02 SS-15 OES-07 EB-08
COME-00 PA-01 USIA-06 SP-02 /158 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6353
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION US BERLIN
AMCONSUL LUMUMBASHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1638

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, TSPA, GW, CE, BR, CG
SUBJECT: OTRAG

REF: STUTTGART 0367 (NOTAL)

1. LUTZ KAYSER, IDENTIFIED IN PRESS AS PRESIDENT OF OTRAG, WAS IN BRAZIL FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 4TH. ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN THE GAZETA MERCANTIL OF THAT DATE, HE WAS PROMOTING THE IDEA OF INSTALLING A SATELLITE LAUNCHING FACILITY IN BRAZIL AS A JOINT PUBLIC/PRIVATE VENTURE INVOLVING OTRAG, PRIVATE BRAZILIAN FIRMS, AND THE BRAZILIAN
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GOVERNMENT. KAYSER CLAIMED TO BE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SEVEN OTHER COUNTRIES LOCATED ON OR NEAR THE EQUATOR (OF WHICH HE IDENTIFIED ONLY INDONESIA) FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

2. ARMATT LEARNED AT AN ITALIAN EMBASSY RECEPTION THAT OTRAG HAD ALSO OFFERED A SOLID PROPELLANT PLANT

TO BRAZIL. WE KNOW NOTHING MORE ABOUT THIS PARTICULAR ASPECT OF KAYSER'S VISIT, BUT AN UNNAMED SENIOR FRENCH EMBASSY OFFICIAL HAD EARLIER BEEN QUOTED IN THE FEBRUARY 11TH ISSUE OF GAZETA MERCANTIL AS COMMENTING RATHER HUFFILY, REGARDING KAYSER'S VISIT IN GENERAL, THAT "THIS SORT OF THING IS NOT PEDDLED DOOR-TO-DOOR." THE FRENCH, UNDER A LONG STANDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRENCH COMMISSION NACIONAL DE ETUDES SPATIALES (CNES) AND THE COMISSAO BRASILEIRA DE ATIVIDADES AEROSPACIAIS (COBAE), HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE SPACE PROBE PROGRAM FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IN ANY EVENT, WHEN KAYSER LEFT BRAZIL (FOR WASHINGTON, HE SAID), HE WAS PROMISING TO RETURN IN JUNE TO SIGN AGREEMENTS.

3. EVEN THOUGH THE SUBJECT WAS RAISED IN THE FEBRUARY 4TH GAZETA ARTICLE WHICH REFERRED TO AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN FRANKFURT IN JANUARY IN WHICH KAYSER WAS ALLEGEDLY QUOTED AS INCLUDING MILITARY SATELITE LAUNCHINGS AMONG THE POSSIBILITIES OPEN TO HIS FIRM IN ZAIRE, EMBASSY AT THE MOMENT HAS NO INFORMATION REGARDING ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KAYSER'S VISIT AND BRAZILIAN TACTICAL MILITARY ROCKETRY PROGRAM. WE KNOW RELATIVELY LITTLE ABOUT THIS SUBJECT. HOWEVER, FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, WE NOTE THAT AT LEAST AS REFLECTED IN THE PRESS, KAYSER'S SALES PITCH WAS HEAVY WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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REMARKS CRITICAL OF GREAT POWER (PARTICULARLY US) HEGEMONY IN SPACE. PRESS OF MARCH 1ST INDICATES THAT THE BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN COMMISSION ON PEACEFUL USE OF OUTER SPACE HAS ADOPTED MUCH THE SAME LINE.
JOHNSON

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NNN

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